

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 /066 W

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P R 161446Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4008

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ECON, US, EG

SUBJECT: GOE "STATEMENT" ON ROBINSON VISIT

1. RELIABLE LOCAL JOURNALIST HAS JUST GIVEN US TEXT OF STATEMENT MADE BY MIN CULTURE SIBA'I TO EGYPTIAN PRESS FOLLOWING RECENT CABINET MEETING. SIBA'I WAS PINCH-HITTING FOR MININFO ABU AL-MAGD WHO WAS ABSENT FROM CAIRO BETWEEN MAY 4 AND MAY 12. ONLY CABINET MEETING OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE DURING THAT PERIOD WAS ON MAY 11.

2. SIBA'I REPORTEDLY TOLD PRESS THAT PRIME MINISTER REVIEWED FOR CABINET RESULTS OF ROBINSON'S VISIT AND INDICATED "THERE IS READINESS ON PART OF USG TO JOIN IN LONG TERM PROJECTS TO RELIEVE EGYPTIAN ECONOMY, INCLUDING FACILITATION OF LOANS, CONVERSION OF SHORT TERM DEBTS INTO MEDIUM TERM IN ORDER TO REDUCE INTEREST AND LESSEN ECONOMIC BURDEN, TO INTERCEDE WITH IMF TO GIVE MORE LOANS AND WITH EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN BANKS TO ORGANIZE LONG TERM AGREEMENTS". OUR INFORMANT ASSURES US THAT GOE AUTHORITIES, UPON HEARING OF SIBA'I STATEMENT, ISSUED ORDERS THAT IT WAS ABSOLUTELY NOT FOR PUBLICATION, IN FACT, IT HAS NOT BEEN PUBLISHED.

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3. NEVERTHELESS, WHETHER PUBLISHED OR NOT, EGYPTIAN

JOURNALISTS NOW BELIEVE THEY HAVE GOOD INSIGHT INTO
UNDERSECRETARY ROBINSON'S MISSION HERE. ANY DOUBTS THEY MIGHT
HAVE HAD ABOUT ALLEGED USG INTENTIONS WERE PROBABLY DISPELLED
BY SADAT IN HIS HAWADITH INTERVIEW (CAIRO 4877), IN WHICH
HE SAID CRYPTICALLY THAT ONE OF CHIEF TOPICS OF CONVERSATION AT
SALZBURG WOULD BE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE.
EILTS

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